**Losses due to strike by AAI employees**

1494.SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airports Authority of India employees went on strike recently;

(b) if so, the number of days strike continued;

(c) the loss caused to Airports Authority of India and various airlines;

(d) the number of flights cancelled;

(e) the demands put forth by the employees; and

(f) the demands which have been considered, demands rejected and demands under consideration with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Airports Authority Employees Union/AAI Joint Forum organised agitation and resorted to protest rallies against the move of Government to modernise the Delhi and Mumbai Airports through joint venture route. The strike commenced from 30th January, 2006 and continued till 3rd February, 2006.

(c) The strike has not caused any loss to Airports Authority of India. However, some airlines namely Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines, Air Deccan, Kingfisher Airlines and Spice Jet suffered losses upto Rs. 60 lakhs, Rs. 39.75 lakhs, Rs. 100 lakhs, Rs. 45 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs respectively. Information from Indian Airlines and Air India is being collected.

(d) Some Airlines namely Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines, Air Deccan and Spice Jet had to cancel 4,12,17 and 2 flights respectively. Information from Indian Airlines and Air India is being collected.

(e) and (f) The AAI Employees Joint Forum protested against the method of modernization of Delhi and Mumbai Airports through the Joint Venture route. They also wanted AAI to modernise Delhi and Mumbai airports as per the Alternate Plan submitted by the Joint Forum of employees of AAI which was not accepted. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has now set up a tripartite Committee comprising of representatives of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India and AAI Employees Joint Forum to look into the issues and proposal of modernising airports by AAI and Employees related issues including job security.